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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10 019,578	12 21 2001	Lutz Schmalstieg	Mo6862 LeA 33,590	1803

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EXAMINER

SERGEANT, RABON A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1711

DATE MAILED: 03 25 2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
10/019,578

Applicant(s)
Schmalstieg et al.

Examiner
Rabon Sergeant

Art Unit
1711



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. 35 U.S.C. § 133.
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 7-16 is/are pending in the application.
 - Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 7-16 is/are rejected.
- Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) _____ accepted or b) _____ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) _____ approved b) _____ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - ☒ All b) _____ Some* c) _____ None of:

- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
- ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
 - The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) _____ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) _____ Interview Summary (PTO-413, Paper No. s) |
| 2) _____ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) _____ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) (Paper No(s)) <u>6</u> | 6) _____ Other: |

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1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Within line 23 of page 4, the statement concerning the examples of amino functional silanes that correspond to structural formula (I) is ambiguous, because the exemplified silanes are compounds, whereas structural formula (I) merely represents a group or part of a compound.

Appropriate correction is required.

2. Claims 7-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The significance of the word, "basic", in association with the filler is unclear from the specification. For example, it is unclear if basic fillers are those which display basic pH values.

3. Claims 7-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

It is unclear what limitation is to be conveyed by the term, "basic". As aforementioned within paragraph 2, it is unclear if the language requires the filler to have a pH which exceeds 7.

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

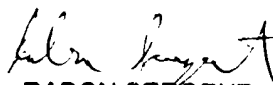
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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5. Claims 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 831108.

The reference discloses the endcapping of polyurethane prepolymers with N-silylalkyl-aspartic esters to provide compositions having improved sealant properties. As additional components of the compositions, organometallic compounds and fillers, such as calcium carbonate, are utilized. See example 17. While the reference does not specifically recite the use of applicants' claimed component C), the position is taken that the component is present within the composition. Support for this position stems from the disclosure at page 4, lines 9-14. The reference states that the N-silylalkyl-aspartic ester endcapped urethane is produced by reacting the polyurethane prepolymer with an excess of the N-silylalkyl-aspartic ester. The position is taken that the resulting product has free N-silylalkyl-aspartic ester present in quantities that meet applicants' claims. Applicants' specification states at page 8 that component C) is present in an amount of only 0.5 to 3 weight percent.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to R. Sergent at telephone number (703) 308-2982.


RABON SERGENT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

R. Sergent

March 23, 2003